

REMARKS

Summary of the Amendment

Upon entry of the amendment, Claim 6 will have been canceled, Claims 1,7,9-12,14-15,17-18 and 23 have been amended, Claims 2-5, 8,13, 16, 19-22 and 24-48 remain unchanged, and new claims 49-98 will have been added. Therefore, Claims 1-5 and 7-98 currently remain pending.

Summary of the Office Action

The application included pending claims 1-48. In the Office Action, Claims 20-22 and 24-28 were allowed. Claims 1-3, 13-15 and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Jasgur (U.S. Patent No. 3,711,182). Claims 1-3,9 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Jasgur (U.S. Patent No. 4,070,096). Claims 4-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jasgur (3,711,182).

As to the allowed subject matter, Claims 6-8,11 and 12 were objected to as being dependant upon a rejected base claim. Claim 23 was objected to because of an informality, which Applicant has corrected. Claims 20-22 and 24-48 were allowed.

The office action did not directly address dependant claims 16-18, however, the office action summary sheet indicated that such claims were “objected to”.

By the present amendment and remarks, Applicant submits that the rejections have been overcome, and respectfully requests reconsideration of the outstanding Office Action and allowance of the present application.

Independent Claim 1 and dependant Claims 2-5, 7-10, 13-16 and 19

Applicant has amended independent Claim 1 and cancelled Claim 6 in order to facilitate issuance of the present application. In particular, Claim 6 was objected to as being based upon a rejected base claim, but was indicated as being allowable, if re-written to include the substance of the base claim and any intervening claims. As such, amended Claim 1 now incorporates the substance of claim 6, and as such is allowable over the art of record. Claims 2-5, 7-15, 13-16 and 19 are claims dependant upon an allowable base claim, and as

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such are in condition for allowance. Claims 14-15 were objected to based upon an informality. Applicant has amended Claims 14-15 to address the misspelling and as such, are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully submits that the forgoing amendments do not include new subject matter and are supported by the specification.

Independent Claim 20 and dependant Claims 21-33

The Office Action indicated Claims 20-22 and 24-33 were allowed. Claim 23 was objected to based upon an informality. Applicant has amended Claim 23 to be dependant upon Claim 20 rather than claim 1, and as such is in condition for allowance.

Independent Claim 34 and dependant Claims 35-48

The Office Action indicated Claims 34-48 were allowed.

Independent Claim 11 and dependant Claims 49-64

The Office Action indicated that claim 11 was objected to as being based upon a rejected base claim, but further indicated such claim as being allowable, if re-written to include the substance of the base claim and any intervening claims. As such, amended Claim 11 now incorporates the substance of claim original Claim 1. Applicant herein also submits new Claims 49-64 for consideration. Claims 49-64 are claims dependant upon allowable base Claim 11, and as such are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully submits that such amendments do not include new subject matter and are supported by the specification. Applicant respectfully submits that amended Claim 11 and new Claims 49-64 are in condition for allowance.

Independent Claim 12 and dependant Claims 65-76

The Office Action indicated that claim 12 was objected to as being based upon a rejected base claim, but further indicated such claim as being allowable, if re-written to include the substance of the base claim and any intervening claims. As such, amended Claim 12 now incorporates the substance of claim original Claim 1. Applicant herein also submits new Claims 65-76 for consideration. Claims 65-76 are claims dependant upon allowable

base claim 12, and as such are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully submits that such amendments do not include new subject matter and are supported by the specification. Applicant respectfully submits that amended Claim 12 and new Claims 65-76 are in condition for allowance.

Independent Claim 17 and dependant Claims 77-87

The Office Action did not directly address dependant claim 17, however, the office action summary sheet indicated that such claims were “objected to.” As such it is presumed that claim 17 was objected to as being based upon a rejected base claim. As such, amended Claim 17 now incorporates the substance of claim original Claim 1. Applicant herein also submits new Claims 77-87 for consideration. Claims 77-87 are claims dependant upon allowable base claim 17, and as such are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully submits that such amendments do not include new subject matter and are supported by the specification. Applicant respectfully submits that amended Claim 17 and new Claims 77-87 are in condition for allowance.

Independent Claim 18 and dependant Claims 88-98

The Office Action did not directly address dependant claim 18, however, the office action summary sheet indicated that such claims were “objected to.” As such it is presumed that claim 18 was objected to as being based upon a rejected base claim. As such, amended Claim 18 now incorporates the substance of claim original Claim 1. Applicant herein also submits new Claims 88-98 for consideration. Claims 88-98 are claims dependant upon allowable base claim 18, and as such are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully submits that such amendments do not include new subject matter and are supported by the specification. Applicant respectfully submits that amended Claim 18 and new Claims 88-98 are in condition for allowance.

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CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that each and every pending claim of the present invention meets the requirements for patentability and respectfully requests the Examiner to indicate allowance of each and every pending claim of the present invention.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that none of the references of record, when considered individually or in any proper combination thereof, anticipate or render obvious the Applicant's invention as recited in each of Claims 1-5 and 7-98.

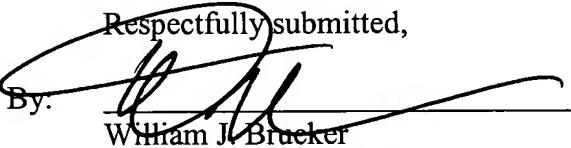
Further, any amendments to the claims which have been made in this response and which have not been specifically noted to overcome a rejection based upon prior art, should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

If any additional fee is required, please charge Deposit Account Number 19-4330.

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Customer No.: 007663

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